



ELLEN SCALETTAR
FIRST SELECTMAN

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Dear Senator Maynard and Representative Guerrero:

I write in opposition to the Governor's Bill #5055 and respectfully ask that you oppose this bill.

Bill #5055 proposes eliminating the current statutory requirement of denying motor vehicle registrations or renewals to taxpayers who owe past due local property taxes or parking tickets.

The property tax compliance 'stop' at DMV is the single most effective collection enforcement tool for Connecticut tax collectors relative to motor vehicle taxes and this is certainly true for the Town of Woodbridge. The Woodbridge Tax Collector has never, in 17 years, sent our delinquent tax list to a collection agency. She has only used a state marshal a few times to collect taxes. Instead, our Tax Collector simply sends a letter reminding delinquent taxpayers that they cannot register their car if they have not paid their motor vehicle taxes.

Without the 'stop' Woodbridge stands to lose revenues because residents will be allowed to register cars without paying back taxes. Our motor vehicle taxes collected for 2014 were \$3,493,887. If this bill were to pass, our Tax Collector estimates the Town of Woodbridge would lose 5% of that, or \$175,000.

Also, the Tax Collector, without the tool of a simple reminder letter, may turn to a state marshal or a collection agency if necessary, resulting in an extra 15% cost for residents.

Thank you for your consideration of the negative impact this bill would have on our Town and on our residents.

Sincerely yours,

Ellen Scalettar
First Selectman
Town of Woodbridge

Cc: Senator Crisco
Senator Slossberg
Representative Klarides